

Mt. Lebanon Church

Sermon

4.2.2023

Please look up and read all verses in their entirety. I have only written partial verses.

Make your own notes, write down other scriptures that you run across while studying, write down questions that you may have or comments as well. Allow the Holy Spirit to reveal to you that he would have you to see through the study of God's word.

Christians Troubling Peace

Romans 8: 1 – 4

How often do we stop and think about those things that are troubling to a Christians peace of mind. Often time, we only see that which is presented in front of us, and what we see will make its way into our minds and in our thoughts, and without following after the strength of the Holy Spirit to guide us, what we see will turn our spiritual peace of mind into worldly fear. As believers, we know this to be true because at any given moment in time, somewhere in the world there is someone suffering, and therefore praying for relief, and praying for Godly peace of mind, and that someone might just be me, or it might just be you. So, then we must ask ourselves, if God is willing, then are we willing to let God take complete control of our life, so that we might have faith, and trust in him through every circumstance in our life.

Matthew 6: 33,....but seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness....

As followers of Christ, we must learn to prioritize how we live our lives, so that first and foremost we will live according to the principles that he gives unto us through his word. Our primary thoughts, and the things that we pursue should be according to Gods eternal kingdom, and his righteousness. God, through his grace, and his mercy, has invited us to live a life free from the worry and anxieties of sin, by putting our faith and trust in him for our salvation. God knows the worrying captures the heart of man, and that worldly fear shatters the faith of man, which causes the believer to lose all spiritual peace of mind. So therefore, instead of seeking after the things of this world through our own self-righteous efforts, we are commanded to develop a godly perspective, so that we might exchange our worldly emotional thinking for godly thinking. Let us remember, that God is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we might believe. Therefore, let us make him our main focus every day of our lives.

Ephesians 3: 20 – 21,....now to him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, to him be glory....forever and ever....

One of our desires as believers is to understand the riches of God's grace towards us, so that we might stand firm in faith, grow in spiritual maturity, trust in the Lord with all our heart, and become rooted and grounded in Gods love. Therefore, we know that God is able, he is able to do that which we think that he can do, he is able to do that which we ask him to do, and he is able to do it all exceedingly abundantly, so that we might be transformed into the likeness of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Romans 8: 1 – 4,....there is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the spirit....the spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from....death....for what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son....condemned sin....that the righteousness....might be fulfilled in us, who walk....after the spirit....

For all those who have believed in Christ Jesus, who have come into a union with Christ, who have been born again, who have been sealed by the Holy Spirit of God, and who have put their complete trust in Christ as their savior, therefore wrath, judgement, condemnation, and separation from God has been dissolved. The judgement that we rightly deserve has already been paid in full, at the cross, by Christ himself. For this reason, we no longer need to walk, or live by the flesh, in self-righteousness, for all of the life that is in us comes from God, through his spirit, therefore we are able to walk and live by the leadership and guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Psalms 9: 10,....and they that know thy name will put their trust in thee, for thou, Lord, hast not forsaken them that seek thee....

Even though God has given unto us the ability to reason, often time our reasoning can be defective, and those things which we desire are not always good for us. Therefore, we must trust in the Lord, for he alone knows what is best for us. For this reason, those who believe in God should always be willing to listen unto him and should always be willing to accept his correction in our life when we are disobedient, correction which comes through his word. God will lead us in every decision if only we will pray, study, and meditate on his word, and seek his direction in our life. God is a faithful, forgiving, gracious, merciful God, who is longsuffering toward all those who believe upon his name. He is salvation to the sinner, he is refuge to the saint, he is comfort to the afflicted, he is strength to the weak, he is health to the sick, and he is life everlasting to those who trust in his name.

Isaiah 26: 3,....thou wilt keep him in a perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee, because he trusteth in thee....

When we become truly focused on the Lord, when we set our thoughts upon him, it is then that his perfect, inner peace, covers us with his righteousness. Being covered with the righteousness of God means walking in his spirit and truth, which will help us to maintain a fellowship with him that surpasses anything that we can comprehend. This greatest of understanding assures us that as we allow the spirit to take every thought that we have, take it captive unto Christ, that we will receive the promise that God has made unto us through his word, the promise that all who will trust in him will have perfect peace.

2 Thessalonians 3: 16,....now the Lord of peace himself give you peace always by all means....the Lord be with you all....

From the time that mankind fell prey to deception and then transgressed into sin, which allowed worldly fear to take control of his life, there has been nothing more sought after than peace. It was God perfect peace that mankind experienced from the beginning, and it was Gods perfect peace that mankind gave up through disobedience, and it was Gods perfect peace, that as quickly as man gave it up he realized that it was a necessity in his life, and he began to seek after ways to get it back. Instead of looking to the Lord, mankind now was looking for perfect peace throughout the world. Peace that is offered by the world is false, it is fragile, it is imperfect, and it leaves us disappointed. It is only through the redeeming blood of Christ that mankind can have peace with God. God purposed to mankind, that through the shedding of blood, with the ultimate sacrifice being Christ himself, that by faith believing, mankind could be completely reconciled back to him, and regain perfect peace.

John 14: 27,....peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you, not as the world giveth, give I unto you....let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid....

The unknown brings worldly fear, and we feel that going through the experience of a challenge will help us to overcome the fear of not knowing, but it will not, why, because our expectations of the outcome of our circumstance did not change. Even though we perceive what is happening, we still fear the result, because we do not have the confidence that it takes to reduce the fear. This confidence can only come through finding the peace that only Christ can offer.

Colossians 3: 15,....and let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body, and be ye thankful....

Only Christ offers a peace that is not of this world. Attempts to find peace in the natural world only leads to more frustration. Christ peace, through his saving grace, is an eternal hope that goes beyond what a fallen world can offer, for it is permanent, and it is guaranteed. Through his word, we are encouraged to keep our hearts from fear, and we can only do so as we acknowledge the reality of those things in our life that troubles our spiritual peace and hinders the trust that we have in God, even as he holds true to his promises, and maintains his perfect peace in our lives.

Let us Pray.

If anyone has any questions, comments or would just like to discuss any of the scriptures, feel free to call, text or email me. Keep praying for each other and all the God lays upon your heart. Hope to see everyone soon. God Bless.

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